

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of providing sealed access through an incision comprising:

making an incision in a patient;

providing a surgical device comprising a proximal ring, a distal ring, and a tubular diaphragm extending between the proximal ring and the distal ring;

coupling the surgical device to the patient solely by inserting the distal ring through the incision such that at least a portion of the diaphragm extends through and engages the incision, and the proximal ring is located outside of the incision;

inserting an object through an entry seal assembly coupled to the proximal ring of the surgical device, through the diaphragm, and into the patient; and

sealing the object ~~by~~ with the entry seal assembly.

26. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the object includes at least part of a human arm.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the object includes at least part of an instrument.

28. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 25, further including moving the entry seal assembly between a an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and locking the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

29. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, further including engaging a detached, separate first component with a second component, the first and second components forming the entry seal assembly.

30. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together by a sleeve member, the method further including rotating the first and second members relative to one another to seal the object.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 32, further including locking the first and second rings together in a sealing configuration.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and the proximal ring of the surgical device.

36. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

37. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

38. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the entry seal assembly engages a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

39. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the distal ring is larger than the incision.

40. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 25, further including biasing the tubular diaphragm against the incision.

41. (Currently Amended) A surgical device providing sealed access through an incision in a patient, the device comprising:

a distal ring;

a proximal ring;

a tubular diaphragm extending between the distal ring and the proximal ring;

a single patient coupling assembly forming substantially the only coupling between the surgical device and the patient, the single patient coupling assembly including the distal ring, the proximal ring and the tubular diaphragm; and

an entry seal assembly coupled to the proximal ring.

42. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of a human arm.

43. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of an instrument.

44. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the entry seal assembly is movable between a an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

45. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first component and a second component, the first component being completely detachable from the second component.

46. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 45, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

47. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together by a sleeve member, the first and second members being rotatable relative to one another to seal the object.

48. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 47, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

49. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

50. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the first and second rings together.

51. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and the proximal ring.

52. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

53. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

54. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the entry seal assembly forms a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

55. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 41, wherein the distal ring is larger than the incision.

56. (Currently Amended) A method of providing sealed access through an incision comprising:

making an incision in a patient;

providing a surgical device comprising a proximal ring, a distal ring, and a tubular diaphragm extending between the proximal ring and the distal ring;

inserting the distal ring through the incision such that at least a portion of the diaphragm extends through the incision and the proximal ring is located outside of the incision;

engaging an entry seal assembly to with the proximal ring of the surgical device;

inserting an object through the entry seal assembly and diaphragm, and into the patient; and

sealing the object ~~by~~ with the entry seal assembly.

57. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the object includes at least part of a human arm.

58. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the object includes at least part of an instrument.

59. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 56, further including moving the entry seal assembly between a an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and locking the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

60. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, further including engaging a detached, separate first component with a second component, the first and second components forming the entry seal assembly.

61. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 60, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

62. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together by a sleeve member, the method further including rotating the first and second members relative to one another to seal the object.

63. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 62, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

64. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 63, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

65. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 63, further including locking the first and second rings together in a sealing configuration.

66. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and the proximal ring of the surgical device.

67. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

68. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

69. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the entry seal assembly engages a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

70. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, wherein the distal ring includes a diameter that is larger than the incision.

71. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 56, further including biasing the tubular diaphragm against the incision.

72. (Currently Amended) A surgical device providing sealed access through an incision in a patient, the device comprising:

a distal ring having a size larger than the incision;

a proximal ring;

a tubular diaphragm extending between the distal ring and the proximal ring and configured to engage the incision to form a seal against the incision;

a single patient coupling assembly forming substantially the only coupling between the surgical device and the patient, the single patient coupling assembly including the distal ring, the proximal ring and the tubular diaphragm; and

an entry seal assembly coupled to the proximal ring.

73. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of a human arm.

74. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of an instrument.

75. (Currently Amended) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the entry seal assembly is movable between a an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

76. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first component and a second component, the first component being completely detachable from the second component.

77. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 76, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

78. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together

by a sleeve member, the first and second members being rotatable relative to one another to seal the object.

79. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 78, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

80. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 79, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

81. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 79, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the first and second rings together.

82. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and the proximal ring.

83. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

84. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

85. (Previously Presented) A surgical device as claimed in claim 72, wherein the entry seal assembly forms a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

86. (New) A surgical device providing sealed access through an incision in a patient, the device comprising:

a distal ring;

a proximal ring;

a tubular diaphragm extending between the distal ring and the proximal ring, the distal ring, proximal ring, and diaphragm configured to provide substantially the only seal between the patient incision and the device; and

an entry seal assembly coupled to the proximal ring.

87. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of a human arm.

88. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the entry seal assembly is configured to receive and seal at least part of an instrument.

89. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the entry seal assembly is movable between an unsealed configuration and a sealed configuration, and the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the entry seal assembly in the sealed configuration.

90. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first component and a second component, the first component being completely detachable from the second component.

91. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 90, wherein the first component includes a surgical glove.

92. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a first member and a second member connected together by a sleeve member, the first and second members being rotatable relative to one another to seal the object.

93. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 92, wherein the first member includes a first ring, and the second member includes a second ring.

94. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 93, wherein the first ring includes a circular shape, and the second ring includes a circular shape.

95. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 93, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a locking assembly configured to secure the first and second rings together.

96. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the entry seal assembly includes a sleeve extending between a seal mechanism and the proximal ring.

97. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the proximal ring includes a circular shape, and the distal ring includes a circular shape.

98. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the proximal ring, distal ring, and diaphragm have approximately the same inner diameter.

99. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the entry seal assembly forms a proximal-most portion of the surgical device.

100. (New) A surgical device as claimed in claim 86, wherein the distal ring is larger than the incision.